



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: Tina Stall (Tina.A.Stall@noaa.gov)
William Ahue (William.Ahue@noaa.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2025

2024-2025 Wet Season Rainfall Summary for Hawai'i

Summary of October 2024 through April 2025 wet season

- Wet season began with abnormally dry (D0) conditions in portions of all four counties and moderate drought (D1) with localized areas of severe drought (D2) over leeward areas of all islands except for the Big Island.
- The wet season was influenced by a weak La Niña event from January through March that transitioned to ENSO-neutral conditions in April.
- The wet season forecast called for above average rainfall through the wet season with a focus on more weather systems bringing significant rainfall to leeward areas due to the forecast of a weak La Niña.
- Rainfall totals for the season were below average at most locations. However, leeward areas did receive some much-needed rainfall due to periods of light flow and sea breezes.
 - October: Slow start to the wet season with near to below average totals for the western half of the state. A wet end to the month helped the eastern half to come in near to above average.
 - November through December: Mostly below average totals; drought worsening for most of the state, becoming isolated extreme by end of December in isolated leeward areas.
 - January through March: Above average January rainfall erased drought over most windward areas. Drought returned to these areas in February and March. Severe to locally extreme drought continued over leeward areas in January, then improved 1 to 2 categories in March.
 - April: Wet with improving drought over Kaua'i and O'ahu and drier with drought worsening to severe (isolated extreme over the Ka'u coast) for the rest of the state.

Wet season statistics

- Overall: 2nd driest in the last 30 years (average rankings from 8 sites)
- Kaua'i
 - Most rain totals 40 to 90% of average.
 - Līhu'e Airport: 12.04 inches, 2nd driest Oct – Apr in the last 30 years.
- O'ahu
 - Most O'ahu totals 50 to 90% of average.
 - Honolulu Airport: 9.31 inches, 19th wettest.

MEDIA ADVISORY

Contact: Tina Stall (Tina.A.Stall@noaa.gov)
William Ahue (William.Ahue@noaa.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2025

- Maui County
 - Maui County totals mostly 30 to 80% of average.
 - Kahului Airport: 7.30 inches, 5th driest.
 - Moloka'i Airport: 7.21 inches, 3rd driest.
- Big Island
 - Most windward totals 40 to 70% of average.
 - Rest of the island totals 60 to 100% of average.
 - Hilo Airport: 58.63 inches, 3rd driest.

Dry season (May through September 2025) outlook

- Probabilities (74%) favor ENSO-neutral conditions to persist through the summer and a 50% chance of continuing through October.
- NOAA Climate Prediction Center's forecast probabilities and model consensus favor above normal precipitation across Kaua'i and O'ahu, below normal precipitation for Big Island, and equal chances of above, below, and near normal precipitation across Maui County through much of the dry season. Toward the end of the dry season and into the start of the 2025–2026 wet season, the forecast shifts towards equal chances of above, below, and near normal precipitation as signals in forecast guidance weaken.
 - Precipitation is inherently difficult to forecast during ENSO-neutral conditions due to a lack of a significant driver (El Niño or La Niña) directing the path of weather systems and more predictable impacts.
- April rainfall on Kaua'i and O'ahu may help delay the onset of significant drought and significant wildfire risk. All of Maui County and the Big Island enter the dry season in moderate drought (D1) or worse, with a higher risk for drought continuing or worsening and a higher chance for significant wildfires.
- Impacts are expected to be the worst for non-irrigated agriculture, water systems dependent on surface water diversions, and residents relying on rainfall catchment.

On the Web:

Wet Season Maps

Kaua'i: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/kauai_2425_hooilo.gif

O'ahu: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/oahu_2425_hooilo.gif

Moloka'i/Lāna'i: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/molani_2425_hooilo.gif

Maui: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/maui_2425_hooilo.gif

Big Island: https://www.weather.gov/images/hfo/hydrosum/bigis_2425_hooilo.gif

NOAA National Weather Service Honolulu HI: <https://www.weather.gov/hfo/>

NOAA Climate Prediction Center: <https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

U.S. Drought Monitor: <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>